

OHR SRT News Summary, 26 January 1999

Headlines

- Numerous Reactions of Public To Yesterday's Session of RS NA
- Session of BiH Presidency Held in Sarajevo
- Yeltsin and Albright on Kosmet and Other Crisis Areas
- Several Hundred Casualties in Earthquake in Columbia

RS PM, Milorad Dodik and RS NA Speaker, Petar Djokic today discussed yesterday's session of the RS NA, in separate meetings with US Ambassador, Richard Kauzlarich. A press release from Djokic and Kauzlarich states that the NA with its work yesterday presented itself as a very stable, highest body of legislative authority of the RS. Djokic emphasised the need to pass the final arbitration decision on Brcko and his expectation that the decision will be adjusted to the needs of the RS, but he said that he also appreciates the possibility of satisfying the interests of the other party. Kauzlarich informed the PM that USAID representatives will arrive in the RS tomorrow, to discuss economic support for the RS.

00:45

President of the RS, Nikola Poplasen, and RS PM, Dodik had separate meetings with a delegation of the ECMM, led by Ambassador Horst Holthoff. The issues discussed were mutual cooperation between the RS and the EC, and the current political situation in the RS. A press release issued by Dodik's Cabinet states that the Ambassador was interested in continuation of activities in constituting a new Government, and that the Coalition "Sloga" came out strengthened from the attempt of breaking it.

00:38

President of the RS today commenced consultations on appointing a new PM nominee, by meeting with the SDS leadership. A press release from the SDS states that this party is ready to find a compromise solution with the other Serb block in the RS NA, on the issue of the PM nominee and composition of the new RS Government.

00:32

The SDS held a press conference in Banja Luka today. President of the SDS, Dragan Kalinic stated that the appearance of Mr. Brane Miljus caused fear in the "Sloga" Coalition and revealed the actual situation within that Coalition. Kalinic said that "our people in the RS and the wider public finally became aware that a 'red-green' conspiracy, composed of the Coalition "Sloga" and the Coalition for Single and Democratic BiH (KCD BiH), is active. Vice President of the SDS, Dragan Cavic, stated that yesterday's session of the RS NA showed that there are no winners in a conflict between Serbs and added that the third proposal for the PM nominee has to be a compromise. Cavic said that it is obvious now how much influence the IC does have on establishing a new Government of the RS.

00:48

According to the SNS press conference held in Banja Luka today, this party is satisfied with the outcome of yesterday's session of the RS NA. Vice President of the SNS, Svetozar Mihajlovic said that the RS President has the constitutional right to appoint a PM nominee, but that he also has the responsibility for this person providing an absolute parliamentary majority. Mihajlovic said that the SNS hopes that President Poplasen will finally understand that he has to support the concept represented by the "Sloga" Coalition. The SNS repeated its stand, that it will advocate initiation of procedure for recall of the RS President, in the coming sessions of the RS NA.

00:35

Member of the SNSD Main Board, Krstan Simic said that his

party condemns the appointment of a PM nominee who everyone new in advance would not realise his task. Another member of the SNSD Main Board, Slavko Mitrovic said that the only task of the "night PM nominee" was to sweep aside, i.e. to destroy the "Sloga" Coalition. Representatives of the SNSD also stated that PM Dodik will press civil charges against those who caused him moral and private damage. All that he gains from the case, he will give away to the Abandoned Children's Centre of "Rade Vranjesevic" in Banja Luka. Speaking of the Brcko issue, Mitrovic said that his party agrees with the statement of Supervisor for Brcko, Robert Farrand, that the IC should maintain its presence in this city, even after passing of the final arbitration decision.

00:52

Head of the KCD BiH, Safet Bico, stated that Miljus's proposal that the SDS representatives should be included in the composition of the new RS Government was unacceptable for his party. According to Bico, SDS presence in the RS Government would block implementation of the DA again and would result in international isolation which could have unforeseeable consequences.

00:24

The OHR also issued a press release today (read in full).

00:32

Members of the BiH Presidency today in Sarajevo discussed the establishment of a Joint Interim Commission on practical questions concerning implementation of the BiH Constitution, DA and its annexes. They concluded that in cooperation with the OHR they will decide on the need for reactivating the Commission.

00:42

Kosovo related news. 0

5:10